

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 NSA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

SCEM-02 EB-11 INT-08 COME-00 FPC-01 RSR-01 /119 W

----- 033101

R 232105Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1388

UNCLAS OTTAWA 1693

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, CA, US

SUBJECT: ARCTIC PIPELINES

1. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT EDITORIAL TITLED "MACDONALD
CALLING..." APPEARING OTTAWA JOURNAL JULY 23.

BEGIN QUOTE

THE TELEPHONE HAS ITS USES, BUT ENERGY MINISTRY
MACDONALD HAS A CASE OF TELEPHONITIS IN THINKING HE
CAN EXPOUND OFFICIAL CANADIAN POLICY TO WASHINGTON BY
IT, RATHER THAN BY NAILING IT DOWN IN WRITING.

HE INSISTS HE THUS "INFORMED" THE STATE DEPT.
JULY 10 ON OTTAWA'S POSITION CONCERNING A MACKENZIE
VALLEY OIL PIPELINE, USED AS A LAND BRIDGE TO SEND
ALASKAN OIL TO THE AMERICAN MIDWEST: WHICH IS, THAT
OTTAWA WOULD NOT REQUIRE IT BE OWNED 51 PER CENT BY
CANADIANS, AS IN THE CASE OF A NATURAL GAS PIPELINE ON
THAT ROUTE.

SO HE CLAIMS IT IS NOT HIS FAULT IF THE STATE DEPT.
FAILED TO CONVEY THAT INFORMATION TO THE U.S. SENATE.
LACK OF THAT UNDERSTANDING MAY HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE
FOR ITS VOTE FOR THEALTERNATE TRANS-ALASKA PIPELINE
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SYSTEM (TAPS); THE VOTE CARRIED BY A MAJORITY OF ONLY

ONE. TAPS IS OPPOSED BY THE CANDIAN GOVERNMENT
BECAUSE OF ITS POLLUTION DANGERS FROM RELAY TANKERS
ALONG THE PACIFIC COAST.

NOT ALL CANADIANS SWALLOW MR. MACDONALD'S
PROTESTATIONS.

IN PARLIAMENT, OPPOSITION LEADER STANFIELD GOT
TO THE POINT. WHY, HE ASKED, DIDN'T THE MINISTER
CLARIFY CANADA'S POLICY WHEN HE FIRST ANSWERED A U.S.
QUESTION ABOUT OWNERSHIP OF THIS OIL PIPELINE? WHY
NOT INDEED? MR. MACDONALD'S EXPLANATION HAD BEEN TO
QUOTEHIMSELF (OUT OF COTEXT) IN A PARLIAMENTARY
ANSWER, SAYING OWNERSHIP WOULD BE 51 PER CENT
CANADIAN--THERE WAS NO WAY OF AMERICANS KNOWING HE
WAS SPEAKING OF AN OIL AND NOT A GAS PIPELINE.

THIS WAS THE HAZY WRITTEN ANSWER HE TRIED TO
CLARIFY A WEEK LATER BY TELEPHONE. AND THE PHONE
CALL WAS THE EXPLANATION HE DECIDED TARDILY TO
CONFIRM IN WRITING FOUR DAYS LATER. LABORING ITS WAY
THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS, HIS WRITTEN CLARIFICATION
REACHED THE STATE DEPT. SIX DAYS AFTER IT WAS WRITTEN.

THAT IS, IT GOT THERE A DAY BEFORE THE SENATE VOTE.
IF ANY SENATORS MIGHT HAVE FAVORED THE MACKENZIE VALLEY
ROUTE ON CANADA'S ACTUAL TERMS, SMALL WONDER THEY NEVER
HEARD OF THEM.

MR. MACDONALD KNOWS THAT PHONE CALLS MAY ALERT,
BUT DO NOT OFFICIALLY INFORM ONE NATION OF ANOTHER'S
POLICIES. THAT IS DONE IN WRITING.

IT IS POINTLESS FOR HIM TO SAY HE TOLD U.S.
SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR MORTON OF CANADIANPOLICY A
YEAR AGO. HOW, IN WRITING? THE POINT IS THE
AMERICANS ASKED FOR INFORMATION IN JUNE, AND GOT A
MISLEADING ANSWER.

AS AN ASIDE: IF HE TOLD THE AMERICANS OF OUR
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POLICY A YEAR AGO, WHY HAS HE KEPT IT SECRET
FROM PARLIAMENT AND THE CANADIAN PUBLIC?

IF ANYONE IS BLAMED FOR THE SENATE NOT BEING
INFORMED, IT MUST BE MR. MACDONALD AND NOT THE STATE
DEPT.

END OF QUOTE

SCHMIDT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973OTTAWA01693
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730716/aaaaaluo.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16-Jan-2002 by phillir0>; APPROVED <15 FEB 2002 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARCTIC PIPELINES
TAGS: ENRG, CA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005